Nunavut Retail Sales

January 2013

1. Monthly Retail Sales, Nunavut

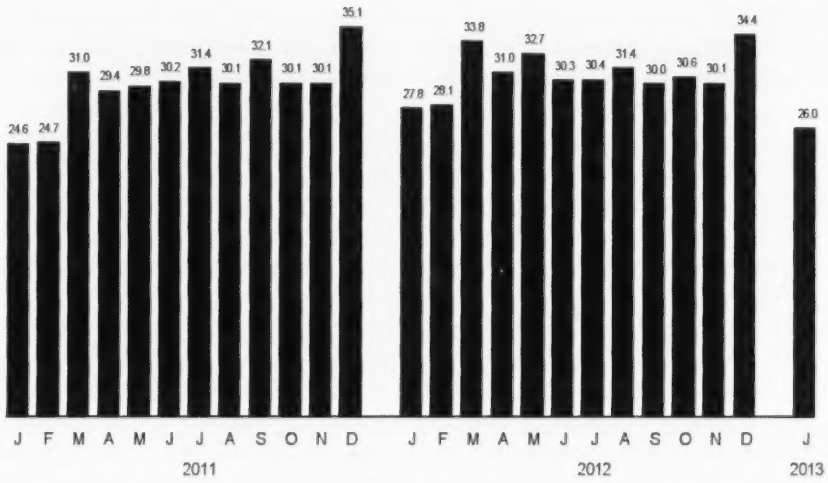
Total retail sales in Nunavut for the month of January 2013 were:	**$26,036,000**
The January 2012 figure was:	**$27,775,000**
The difference was an increase of:	**-$1,739,000**
As a percentage the increase was:	**-6.3%**

Nunavut total retail sales[1] for January 2013 decreased by **6.3%** from January 2012. By comparison, Canada's retail sales increased **2.9%** over the same period.

Estimates of retail sales are an important indicator of the economic activity in a region. When compared to the same time period for previous years, monthly retail trade sales allow accurate and timely insight into the retail sector of an economy.

Nunavut Monthly Retail Sales ($ millions)

January 2012 to January 2013



2. Nunavut Retail Sales

		Monthly Sales ($ thousands)	Change from Previous Month (%)	Change from One Year Ago (%)	Year-to-Date Total Sales ($ thousands)	Change in Year-to-Date Compared to Previous Year (%)
2013	Jan	26,036	-24.3	-6.3	26,036	-6.3
2012	Dec	34,387	14.3	-2.0	370,470	3.3
	Nov	30,096	-1.5	0.1	336,083	3.9
	Oct	30,552	1.8	1.4	305,987	4.3
	Sept	30,021	-4.3	-6.5	275,435	4.6
	Aug	31,360	3.3	4.0	245,414	6.1
	Jul	30,366	0.1	-3.2	214,054	6.5
	Jun	30,347	-7.1	0.5	183,688	8.3
	May	32,682	5.3	9.7	153,341	9.9
	Apr	31,024	-8.2	5.4	120,659	10.0
	Mar	33,801	20.5	9.1	89,635	11.7
	Feb	28,059	1.0	13.4	55,834	13.3
	Jan	27,775	-20.8	13.1	27,775	13.1

Nunavut Retail Sales for January 2013 decreased **24.3** over the previous month and decreased **6.3%** for year-to-date sales compared to the same period last year.

3. Nunavut Monthly Retail Sales

		Total Retail Sales[2]	Food and Beverage Stores	Other Retail Stores[3]
		$000's		
2013	Jan	26,036	6,111	19,925
2012	Dec	34,387	7,978	26,409
	Nov	30,096	7,444	22,652
	Oct	30,552	7,461	23,091
	Sept	30,021	7,078	22,943
	Aug	31,360	7,299	24,061
	Jul	30,366	7,169	23,197
	Jun	30,347	6,854	23,493
	May	32,682	7,800	24,882
	Apr	31,024	7,171	23,853
	Mar	33,801	7,764	26,037
	Feb	28,059	6,554	21,505
	Jan	27,775	6,354	21,421

4. Nunavut Annual Retail Sales

	Total Retail Sales[2]	Food and Beverage Stores	Other Retail Stores[3]
		$000's	
2011	358,609	82,789	275,820
2010	341,179	80,051	261,128
2009	324,231	73,277	250,954
2008	308,749	62,040	246,709
2007	278,096	52,061	226,035
2006	260,400	47,561	212,839
2005	249,454	43,012	206,442
2004	233,231	39,658	193,573
2003	232,923	43,903	189,020

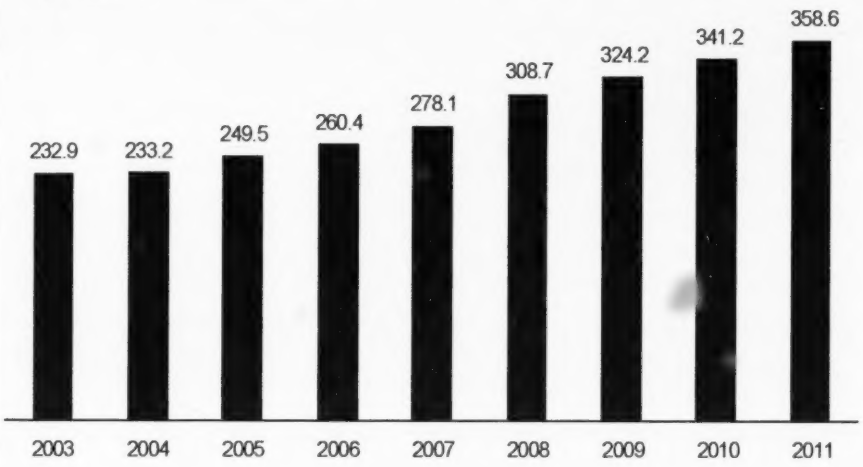
5. Retail Trade Survey Information

The Retail Trade Survey collects sales and the number of retail locations by province and territory from a sample of retailers. Sales estimates obtained from retailers are a key monthly indicator of consumer purchasing patterns in Canada. Furthermore, retail sales are an important component of the Gross Domestic Product, which measures Canada's production, and are part of many economic models used by public and private agencies. The Bank of Canada relies partly on monthly retail sales estimates when making decisions that influence interest rates. Business use retail sales estimates to track their own performance against industry averages and to prepare investment strategies.

Retail sales estimates do not include any form of direct selling that bypasses the retail store, e.g., direct door-to-door selling; sales made through automatic vending machines; sales of newspapers and magazines sold directly by printers or publishers; and sales made by book and record clubs. Internet retailing activities are included in the survey only when conducted through the same legal structure as the retail establishment. The January 1994 signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement between Canada, the United States and Mexico created the need for an industry classification common to the three signatories. The statistics agencies of the three countries developed the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in 1997. NAICS is based on a production-oriented or supply-based conceptual framework in that establishments are grouped into industries according to similarity in the processes used to produce goods and services. Use of the new system provides greater comparability of industry statistics between the three countries. However, it also breaks the historical continuity of national series based on other classification systems. Since 1948, Statistic Canada had been using primarily the Standard Industry Classification (SIC) and it revisions (1960, 1970 and 1980).

Since 1988, Monthly Wholesale and Retail Trade Survey (MWRTS) data had been produced using SIC 1980 definitions. Following the development of NAICS, the survey was redesigned and its first NAICS-based estimates were released for the April 2004 reference month in June 2004. To maintain the historical continuity of the estimates, Statistics Canada has produced NAIC-based historical monthly estimates by converting the SIC-based historical data. These historical estimates are available from the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics.

6. Retail Sales Annual Estimates, 2003 to 2011



During the past 8 years, retail sales in Nunavut have increased from $232.9 million in 2003 to $358.6 million in 2011. The largest increase in sales occurred in 2008 when sales were up $30.6 million or **11.0%** over sales in 2007.

	Nunavut		Canada	
	Retail Sales ($millions)	% Change from Previous Year	Retail Sales ($millions)	% Change from Previous Year
2011	358.6	5.1	456,388.5	4.1
2010	341.2	5.2	438,524.6	5.6
2009	324.2	5.0	415,413.4	-2.9
2008	308.7	11.0	427,895.9	3.7
2007	278.1	6.8	412,565.3	5.9
2006	260.4	4.4	389,459.5	6.4
2005	249.5	7.0	365,994.1	5.6
2004	233.2	0.1	346,454.6	4.6
2003	232.9	2.5	331,143.4	3.6

Endnotes:

1. Estimates of retail sales are collected monthly by Statistics Canada through their 'Monthly Retail Trade Survey'. Figures are released in preliminary form two months after data is collected with revisions to the data being made the following month. Data is released in both raw and seasonally adjusted form. **This publication only deals with raw (unadjusted) figures (seasonality has not been taken into account).**
2. Definitions of the NAICS categories included in each industry group are available through the Bureau of Statistics.
3. Total Annual retail sales are calculated using unrounded data while the monthly retail sales are calculated using rounded data.
4. Other Retail Stores is equal to Total Retail Sales minus Food and Beverage Stores. Other stores include Furniture, Home Furnishings and Electronic Stores; Building and Outdoor Home Supplies Stores; Pharmacies and Personal Care Stores; Automotive; Miscellaneous Retailers; and Non-store Retailers which are not released separately by Statistics Canada due to confidentiality restrictions.

For more statistical information, visit our website at http://www.stats.gov.nu.ca/en/home.aspx.

Nunavut

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